

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

6803302504

CH-3

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Whiteoak House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

North East corner of Bohemia Avenue and Third Street

CITY, TOWN

Chesapeake City

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Cecil

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

— DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

— STRUCTURE

— SITE

— OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

— PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

— BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

— IN PROCESS

— BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED

— UNOCCUPIED

— WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

— YES RESTRICTED

— YES UNRESTRICTED

☒ NO

PRESENT USE

— AGRICULTURE

— COMMERCIAL

— EDUCATIONAL

— ENTERTAINMENT

— GOVERNMENT

— INDUSTRIAL

— MILITARY

— MUSEUM

— PARK

☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

— RELIGIOUS

— SCIENTIFIC

— TRANSPORTATION

— OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Clifford B. Whiteoak

Telephone #: (301) 885-5533

STREET & NUMBER

Bohemia Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Chesapeake City

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21915

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, Cecil County Courthouse
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Liber #: SRA No. 12

Folio #: 497

STREET & NUMBER

Courthouse Building

CITY, TOWN

Elkton

STATE

Maryland 21921

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

— FEDERAL — STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION**CONDITION**☐ EXCELLENT☒ GOOD☐ FAIR☐ DETERIORATED☐ RUINS☐ UNEXPOSED**CHECK ONE**☐ UNALTERED☒ ALTERED**CHECK ONE**☒ ORIGINAL SITE☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Whiteoak house is a low two story three bay long frame dwelling located on Bohemia Avenue at the corner of Third Street. Across its facade is a hip roof porch supported on four turned posts with balustrade and brackets. Both roofs are covered with light green asphalt shingles. The windows have 6/1 sash and original trim of the mid 19th century. The door is off-center; and at one time there were two front doors and a two story porch.

The walls of the house have recently been covered with aluminum siding. To the rear of the structure are wings added, beneath the same roof slope, extending to one story at the rear. On the south side is a screened porch with the same detail as the front porch.

The building is constructed above a stone basement. On the rear of the main section is a brick chimney. It is well maintained and needs little attention. When originally constructed, it had shutters and a different porch across its facade.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

| PERIOD | | AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING | <input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499 | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION | <input type="checkbox"/> LAW | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599 | <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS | <input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE | <input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY | <input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> ART | <input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC | <input type="checkbox"/> THEATER | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900- | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY | <input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) | |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION | | | |

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Architecturally the Whiteoak House is representative of vernacular buildings constructed in Chesapeake City in the 1840's and 50's. It retains some original detail.

Oldtimers in Chesapeake City claim this to be the oldest house in this block. In 1854, Richard H. Bayard leased the property to Absalom P. Cropper, a boat captain, for \$400.00. This price would indicate a building on the land, although two lots were involved in the transfer.

In 1867, Absalom Cropper transferred the land to James Porter, a farmer, whose daughters conducted a school on George Street, over the printing shop. The Porter sisters, Mary and Margaret, conducted classes in two other locations, one over Mr. Bungard's store and one on the "Pool Room" corner, Front and Bohemia Avenue. These ladies must have been versatile for they opened a shop in the front room of their house on the north side. There was a separate entrance to the shop from the street and they dispensed "notions", i.e. sewing materials, ribbons, elastic, and the inevitable penny candy. One Miss Porter is supposed to have sold yeast through the side window of the shop--another tale the oldtimer's tell.

The Smithers family came into ownership through the wills of James Porter and his heirs, Margaret Porter. Dr. Delmar Smithers sold the property in 1921 to Wilmer Bristow, an engineer on a Canal tugboat.

In 1931, the present owner took possession, Mr. Clifford Whiteoak was a dispatcher on the Canal for thirty-eight years before his retirement.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Michael Bourne & Katherine Wein

April, 1976

ORGANIZATION

DATE

South Chesapeake City Historic District Commission

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

c/o Town Council of Chesapeake City

(301) 885-5298

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Chesapeake City

Maryland 21915

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438



Whiteoak House

CE-330

West facade + South gable

M. Bourne April 1976